

1. The amendment filed on June 23, 2008 has been entered.
2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
3. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ms. Lisa Serdynski and Mr. Milan Milosevic on September 3, 2008.

Cancel Claims 1-3 and 5-14 drawn to non-elected species.

4. Claims 15-25 are allowed.
5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the Examiner agrees with Applicant's arguments filed on June 23, 2008.

Applicant's claimed device is not merely reversal of parts of Yamashita's device. On the one hand, if one reverses the parts of Yamashita's device, *i.e.*, to rearrange Yamashita's spring 42 from the outside of the adjuster 40 to the inside of the adjuster 40 so that the spring 42 is extended axially within the bore 70, the movement of the spring 42 would be stopped or obstructed by the radially inwardly extending flange 84 shown in FIG. 7, thus, renders Yamashita's device to be inoperative for its intended design. On the other hand, such reversed spring 42 would not perform the functional limitations, such as, "the retention segment (27) of the spring element (26) *continuously* engaging the radially interior detent contour (5) from within the adjuster (24) during control cable adjustment" (emphasis and referential characters added) recited in Claim 15. In fact, Yamashita's reversed spring 42 would not continuously engage the

detent contour 80 due to a gap defined by the channel 80 as best seen in Yamashita's FIG. 5. See Yamashita, col. 5, line 18 through col. 6, line 64.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure: Mitchell (cable 30F and contour 41F) and Wesling et al. (cable 22 and detent 38).

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Vinh T. Luong whose telephone number is 571-272-7109. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard Ridley can be reached on 571-272-6917. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Vinh T Luong/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3682